

Town Council Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2011

6:30 pm

Bert Wells

Dean Geracimos

Frank Vari

Frank Hill, Mayor

Valerie Walls, Clerk/Treasurer

Rich Taylor

Ron Francis

Sharon Weygand, Town Administrator

Tomas Yeager, Town Attorney

Mayor Hill brought the meeting to order at 6:30pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Rich Taylor, Dean Geracimos and Bert Wells were sworn in.

Approval of minutes from Closed Session May 9, 2011

MOTION: Frank Vari made a motion, Dean Geracimos seconded to accept the minutes from May 9, 2011 Closed Session of Town Council. Aye: 4 Nay: 0 Bert Wells abstained – was not in office at that time. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes from June 13, 2011

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, Dean Geracimos seconded to accept the minutes from June 13, 2011 Town Council Meeting. Aye: 3 Nay: 0 Rich Taylor and Bert Wells abstained – not at the meeting. Motion carried.

Approval of minutes from June 22, 2011 Special Session

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, Rich Taylor seconded to approve the minutes from the Special Session from June 22, 2011. Aye 3 Nay 0 Abstain Dean Geracimos and Bert Wells – was not at the meeting.

Public Announcements:

Frank Hill: Thanking everyone for the notes and cards from his brothers' passing.

Frank Vari: Next Tuesday, Chesapeake City will be receiving awards from the County for our recycling efforts. On the 23rd we will be recycling salvage metals on the south side. We do have calendars for next year on sale in Town Hall. They are \$12 each.

Frank Hill: Commending Frank Vari on his efforts with the recycling. He's been the main force behind it and has done a real good job.

Dean Geracimos: Welcoming Bert Wells to Council.

Ron Francis: Acknowledging the work and effort by Chesapeake Inn and the Mayor for getting the fireworks for in Town this year. There will be a Car Show in Pell Gardens on August 28th. The Civic Association was awarded \$150,000 grant/loan to revamp Franklin Hall.

Commissioner Reports:

- Ron Francis Public Works – Water & sewer meeting on the 18th, need to discuss the drying bed issues; sound demonstration given at the June workshop.
- Bert Wells Public Safety – Sgt Leas report attached, Charter Ethics
- Rich Taylor Financial
Historic – Elections were held: Chair: Harriett Davis, Vice-Chair Tracey Sampson, Secretary Linda Francis
- Frank Vari Planning & Zoning - Four action items at the last meeting,
Public Hearing on the new Ordinances on July 20, 2011.
Parking Committee-New Stickers are available for the next year.
What you have now will expire July 20, 2011.

5K Run/Walk – working on the June race, volunteers needed, continuing work on the Oct 1st Bridge Walk/Run.

Recycling-

- Dean Geracimos

Parks & Recreation-Falling planning; NYC trip for December during the week. Will be meeting with Sharon to review possible grant funding.

Docks- Commends Dock Master on his great job!

Little League – In the middle of All Stars

Chamber of Commerce

Office Reports

- Sharon Weygand Town Administrator – report attached.
- Valerie Walls Clerk/Treasurer – P&L Report attached
- Frank Hill Mayor – Attended Maryland Municipal League with Town Administrator and Clerk/Treasurer. Canal Day was much better this year, smaller crowds and lots of compliments on the new playground.

Old Business

- Community Garden – Town Attorney to draw up a hold harmless agreement and review Letter of Responsibility.
- Work-In-Process Ordinance regarding Water & Sewer Rate Levels – please review and get back to Frank Hill. He has been working on this with the Water & Sewer committee.

New Business:

- Introducing Ordinance 7-11-2011.1 Authorization of check signing in the absence of the Clerk/Treasurer or the Mayor. Discussion, if needed to be at the July Workshop.
- Licensing of Rental Units – July workshop

ACTION ITEMS:

- Appointment of Zoning Inspector

MOTION: Frank Vari made a motion, Ron Francis seconded to appoint Natalie Ricci as Zoning Inspector/Compliance Officer; along with authorizing up to 15 hours a week for the next couple of months until needed, to catch up on the backlog. Position to also include issuing parking tickets. All in favor, motion carried.

- Chamber of Commerce – move to July workshop. Currently have 36 paid members. Made about \$700 during the fireworks. A Beach Party in August, unsure of the draw; possible September workshop on Social Networking; possible mixer the end of August. Working on another site for future fireworks.
- Ordinance 6-13-2011.2 Dock Ordinance

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, Rich Taylor seconded, to approve Ordinance 6-13-2011.2. Aye: 4 Nay: 0 Bert Wells abstained. Motion carried.

- Recycling-Metal Scavenging Town Ordinance

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, Frank Vari seconded to approve Ordinance 6-13-2011.3 prohibiting scavenging of recycling and refuse materials. All in favor, motion carried.

- Event Application: Fireworks & Parade

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, Dean Geracimos seconded to approve the Event Application for July 1, 2011. All in favor, motion carried.

- Event Application: Nur Temple Hospital Cruise

MOTION: Dean Geracimos made a motion, Ron Francis seconded to approve the Nur Temple Hospital Cruise contingent upon proper insurance documentation. All in favor, motion carried.

- Sidewalk Bids

MOTION: Rich Taylor made a motion, Dean Geracimos seconded to approve the sidewalk repairs with pavers at 14 Second Street in front of the AME Church, not to exceed \$4593.60. All in favor, motion carried.

- Waiving Base Rate during construction at 626 Biddle Street

MOTION: Ron Francis made a motion, Rich Taylor seconded to waive the base rate during construction at 626 Biddle Street as long as the construction permits are current and the water is off. Aye: 3 R Francis, F Vari, R Taylor Nay: B Wells Abstained: D Geracimos Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Trudy Carter: Why not have a policy to have only one check on a signature for under say \$500? Or what about leaving two checks with signatures in a safe for an emergency? Why not consider an option like that?

Town Attorney: It would require charter amendments. These rules are considered good practice.

Joe Montefusco: Questions regarding the letter he received about additional apartments above his business and additional base rates being charged.

Frank Hill: Hold the bill until after your inspection with the Compliance Officer

Dean Geracimos: can we request a meeting to discuss the water line on north side and for council to give direction for the staff.

MOTION: Dean Geracimos made a motion, Ron Francis seconded to hold a Special Session on Wednesday July 13, 2011 at 6:30pm to discuss the water connection on the north side, to include financing and the process. All in favor, motion carried.

MOTION: Frank Vari made a motion, Rich Taylor seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm. All in favor, motion carried.

Submitted by:

Approved by:

D. Valerie Walls, Clerk Treasurer

Frank Hill, Mayor